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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

FIRST ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

NORTH CAROLINA

Farmers' State Alliance,

HELD IN THE

CITY OF RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA,

AUGUST 14TH, 15TH AND 16TH, 1888.

S. B. ALEXANDER, President, - - - Charlotte, N. C.
L. L. POLK, Secretary, - - - - Raleigh, N. C.

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EDWARDS & BROUGHTON, POWER PRINTERS AND BINDERS.
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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

NORTH CAROLINA FARMERS' STATE ALLIANCE,

FIRST ANNUAL SESSION,

AUGUST 14, 15 and 16, 1888.

RALEIGH, N. C., August 14th, 1888.

The North Carolina State Farmers' Alliance convened in Metropolitan Hall, in the City of Raleigh, on August 14th, 1888, and was called to order at 12 o'clock M., by President S. B. Alexander.

The Alliance was opened in due form, Bro. D. P. Meacham officiating as Chaplain.

The President appointed a Committee on Credentials, consisting of Bros. W. A. Graham of Lincoln, S. O. Wilson of Wake, and J. F. Davis of Rockingham, which, after investigation of the credentials of delegates, reported that all the County Alliances in the State, except Columbus, Onslow and Yadkin were properly represented, as follows:

Col. J. N. Whitford, Jones county; L. N. Durham, Cleveland county; E. B. Kearns, Randolph county; S. O. Wilson, Wake county; George Bishop, Northampton county; J. F. Shine, Duplin county; J. R. Beaman, Sampson county; Dr. J. E. Person, Wayne county; D. A. Clark, Montgomery county; J. H. Exum, Nash county; L. E. Duffy, Craven county; Wm. Pearson, Harnett county; W. L. Williams, Cumberland county; J. P. Hodges, Committeeman, Cumberland county; W. A. Darden, Greene county; N. H. Fleming, Granville county; Jas. P. Kerr, Alamance county; A. A. Edwards, Brunswick county; L. M. Morrison, Cabarrus county; J. R. Evans, Davidson county; J. O. A. Kelly, Moore county; E. Meares, Bladen county; J. B. Holman, Iredell county; V. A. Wilson, Forsyth county; J. H. Wilson, Caswell county; L. R. Hamer, Robeson county; W. W. Farmer, Wilson county; G. L. White, Davie county; S. Rountree, Lenoir county; J. T. Rogers, Warren county; H. S. Harrison, Halifax county; Wm. Merritt, Person county; M. E. Blalock, Stanly county; J. W. McGregor, Anson county;

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W. C. Cole, Richmond county; W. E. Ardrey, Mecklenburg county; J. S. Wilson, Rockingham county; D. Z. Hardin, Richmond county; J. K. Hughes, Orange county; J. T. Nichols, Durham county; J. W. Atwater, Chatham county; L. A. Shuford, Catawba county; Capt. J. J. Young, Johnston county; W. A. Graham, Lincoln county; A. C. Ward, Pender county; W. A. James, Pitt county; J. L. McLean, Robeson county; A. F. Bizzell, Richmond county; H. C. Kearney, Franklin county; J. B. Ashcraft, Union county; D. O. Bryan, Moore county; J. J. Battle, Edgecombe county; J. A. Fisher, Rowan county; S. F. Harrell, Rutherford county; J. H. Dunn, Vance county.

On motion, Bro. L. A. Shuford was admitted as a delegate to represent Catawba County Alliance.

The following Committee on the Order of Business was announced by the President: Bros. J. B. Holman of Iredell, W. W. Farmer of Wilson, and L. R. Hamer of Robeson.

President Alexander then delivered his Annual Address, which was warmly received by the Alliance.

The Committee on the Order of Business submitted the following report:

Your Committee on the Order of Business beg leave to submit the following report as the Order of Business governing this body:

1. Calling the roll.
2. Address by the President.
3. Reading minutes of preceding meeting.
4. Appointing special committees.
5. Report of officers and standing committees.
6. Unfinished business.
7. New business.
8. Report of special committees.
9. Business with National Alliance.
10. Election of officers and election and appointment of standing committees.
11. Lecturing.
12. Installation of officers.
13. Adjournment.

J. B. HOLMAN,
W. W. FARMER,
L. R. HAMER,
Committee.

On motion, the report of the committee was adopted.

The proceedings of the last meeting were read by the Secretary and approved.

Bro. J. L. McLean, of Robeson, introduced a resolution, which, after discussion, was laid on the table.

Bro. G. B. Pickett, of the Texas State Alliance, was recognized by the President and introduced to the Alliance, and invited to a seat on the floor.

The Annual Report of the Secretary was read, as follows:

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE N. C. F. S. ALLIANCE. AUGUST 14. 1888.

Bro. President and members of the North Carolina Farmers' State Alliance:

In submitting this, my first annual report, as Secretary of our State Alliance, it may not be improper for me to give a brief review of the work accomplished through this office, since our organization, October 4th, 1887.

Beginning without a dollar in our treasury, with only one hundred and thirty-two Subordinate Alliances, scattered over the territory of eight counties, which were poorly equipped and imperfectly instructed, with no publishing house, from which to secure Supplies, nearer than Dallas, Texas, with but few brethren in the Order sufficiently informed in the written and unwritten work to act as Organizers, the task of successfully organizing the State was, indeed, a formidable undertaking.

I effected an arrangement with Bro. E. B. Warren, Secretary of the National Alliance, for outfit supplies for newly organized Alliances, until we should be able to print and furnish them from our own office. The expense and delay, necessarily attending the shipment of Supplies over such a great distance, and the active and constantly increasing demand for them, made it imperative that this work should be executed at home. It was therefore deemed wise, that the first receipts of the office, or so much as were necessary, should be appropriated to the furnishing of such portions of the Supplies as were allowed to be printed under the rule of the National Committee on Secret Work. I accordingly made an arrangement, with the sanction of our brother President, with Messrs. Edwards & Broughton, of this city, for printing such matter as was required, and at lower rates than it could be procured from our National Publishing House in Texas.

Forms, blanks, working bulletins, circulars and books for the office to conform to the requirements of our Constitution, had to be prepared and distributed to the various Alliances, as well as outfits and instructions for Deputy Organizers. As new Deputies were commissioned, and new fields were opened, the correspondence and work of the office increased so rapidly, that it was found to be impossible to meet the growing demands upon the office without additional clerical aid. The correspondence of the office has increased until, for the past two months, the letters received number from fifty to one hundred per day. I employed two first-class men—one of them an expert book-keeper, and with the marvelous growth of our Order, the work has so increased and enlarged, that with constant and faithful labor, we find it difficult to perform it.

I procured a room for the office at No. 13 West Hargett street, from Messrs. Williamson & Upchurch, at a cost of five dollars per month. Its location is accessible and convenient, and thus far has answered the purpose.

THE PROGRESS OF THE WORK.

At your organization we had 132 Subordinate Alliances in the State; to-day we have 1,018. We have fifty-two County Alliances, in the following named counties: Alamance, Anson, Bladen, Brunswick, Cabarrus, Caswell, Chatham, Cleveland, Columbus, Craven, Cumberland, Davie, Davidson, Duplin, Durham, Edgecombe, Forsyth, Franklin, Granville, Greene, Halifax, Harnett, Iredell, Johnston, Jones, Lenoir, Lincoln, Martin, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Moore, Nash, Northampton, Onslow, Orange, Pender, Person, Pitt, Randolph, Richmond, Robeson, Rockingham, Rowan, Rutherford, Sampson, Stanly, Union, Vance, Wake, Warren, Wayne, Wilson and Yadkin, and the work of organizing eleven other counties is progressing.

The total membership in our State approximates forty-two thousand. Absolute exactness, as to membership, is not attainable, since a number of Alliances have failed to report for the last quarter, but the above estimate is approximately correct.

I give the number of Alliances, reported by counties, as follows: Alamance, 8; Alexander, 2; Anson, 25; Bladen, 28; Brunswick, 11; Cabarrus, 12; Caswell, 17; Catawba, 4; Chatham, 46; Cleveland, 22; Columbus, 27; Craven, 9; Cumberland, 32; Davidson, 11; Davie, 4; Duplin, 28; Durham, 18; Edgecombe, 13; Forsyth, 8; Franklin, 29; Gaston, 3; Granville, 29; Greene, 9; Guilford, 1; Halifax, 21; Harnett, 24, Hertford, 2; Iredell, 27; Johnston, 34; Jones, 10; Lenoir, 19; Lincoln, 6; Martin, 7; McDowell, 1; Mecklenburg, 26; Montgomery, 13; Moore, 33; Nash, 27; Northampton, 13; Onslow, 22; Orange, 14; Pasquotank, 5; Pender, 15; Person, 17; Pitt, 10; Randolph, 16; Richmond, 14; Robeson, 42; Rockingham, 15; Rowan, 21; Rutherford, 11; Sampson, 40; Stanley, 12; Stokes, 3; Union, 30; Vance, 15; Wake, 55; Warren, 17; Washington, 1; Wayne, 19; Wilson, 17; and Yadkin, 6.

One hundred and seven Deputy Organizers have been commissioned, but several of these have tendered their resignations, and the commissions of others have been revoked.

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS.

This office has received from all sources	$6,064 59
Disbursed, as per vouchers in hand of Treasurer	4,050 50
Balance in hands of Treasurer	$2,014 09

Of which amount the office is due for outstanding accounts as follows:

E. B. Warren, Secretary National Alliance	$129 59
S. B. Alexander, President, salary to date	108 00
L. L. Polk, Secretary, salary to date	133 00
J. D. Allen, Treasurer	108 00
Florida State Alliance	5 25
Edwards & Broughton	16 00
Alfred Williams & Co.	9 30
Amount due in full	$509 12

The books of the office, containing a detailed statement of the receipts and disbursements, have been submitted to the examination of your Executive Committee, who will report thereon. For a general statement of the purposes for which the expenditures were made, I respectfully refer you to the report of our Treasurer, Bro. J. D. Allen.

THE ORGAN.

It may be my duty, as Editor of the PROGRESSIVE FARMER, which paper was made our official State organ by the action of your body at its organization, to state that its success has been remarkable.

At the date of its adoption as the organ of our State Alliance, its list of subscribers was about thirteen hundred; to-day we issue to regular subscribers about five thousand, five hundred and eighty copies, making it among the very foremost, if not the first paper in the State in point of subscribers. At no time has it been so prosperous as for the past two months, during which period it has received about nineteen hundred subscribers, and yet it may not be improper to state, that not more than one tenth of our membership are subscribers. The Virginia State Alliance, at its organization on the 12th ult., adopted it as the official organ of the Farmers' Alliance of that State.

The outlook for the Order in our State is, indeed, hopeful and auspicious. The finest spirit prevails, and the hopes, aims and desires of the brotherhood are in the most thorough and harmonous accord.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted.

L. L. POLK,
Secretary N. C. F. S. Alliance.

The report of the Secretary on the Business Agency Fund, was read as follows:

REPORT ON THE STATE BUSINESS AGENCY FUND.

On the 4th day of June last I mailed to the Secretary of each Subordinate Alliance in the State, an address issued by our President and Executive Committee, to the membership of our order in regard to raising a fund for establishing a business agency for our State, a copy of which is hereto appended. It was made my duty to receive the reports of such amounts as were pledged for this purpose, and report the same to your body.

Up to this date, in notes, payable not later than November 1st next, and a small amount of cash, the sum of $5,897.25. I have received official pledges and notes, made by members, to the amount of $25,084.25; total, $30,981.50.

From hundreds of letters received it is manifest that two causes have operated most seriously against a more prompt and liberal response on the part of the members:

First: The want of a clearer understanding as to how the fund is to be applied; how it is to be secured against loss, and the advantages which may accrue to the contributor.

Second: The continued drought which prevailed in many sections of the State, and which threatened serious disaster to the crops.

Happily, the recent general rains have revived the drooping spirit, as well as the drooping plant, and it only remains for this body to devise such a system as shall fully meet the first inquiry to secure a general and most liberal response from the members throughout the State. The address has been received with hope, courage and enthusiasm, and if this body shall digest and present to our brethren a practical and safe plan for applying the fund for the benefit of the order, no reasonable demand will fail to be met prompt and liberally.

Respectfully and fraternally,

L. L. POLK,
Secretary N. C. Farmers' Alliance.

The annual report of the Executive Committee was read, as follows:

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE NORTH CAROLINA FARMERS' STATE ALLIANCE.

August 14th, 1888.

To the Officers and Members of the N. C. State Farmers' Alliance:

BRETHREN:—We, the members of the Executive Committee, beg leave to make the following report:

We have carefully examined the books and accounts of the Secretary and Treasurer of the N. C. State Farmers' Alliance, and find them correct and satisfactory. We have also examined their reports submitted to you, and find them also correct. On the 6th of February, 1888, a

justified bond was required, and approved, of the Secretary for $5,000; and also a justified bond was required and approved of the Treasurer for $10,000; both of which are duly recorded in books of the Register of Deeds for Wake County.

We would recommend that section 2, article 9, of our Constitution, relative to the appointment of County Organizers, be so amended as to leave the recommendation for appointment of one or more County Organizers to the Committee on the Good of the Order of said County Alliance.

We also beg leave to call the attention of the County Secretaries to provisions of section 8, article 2, of our Constitution, relative to reports, and urge the importance of their strict observance of the same.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

ELIAS CARR,
T. IVEY,
J. S. JOHNSTON,
Executive Committee.

On motion of W. A. Graham, the report of the committee was referred to the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws.

Bro. J. N. Hubbard, chairman of the Judiciary Committee, made the following report:

REPORT OF THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE.

To the President and Members of the North Carolina Farmers' State Alliance:

BRETHREN:—The State Judiciary Committee, in compliance with instructions from President Alexander, met in Raleigh July 31st, 1888, to investigate charges made and published in the Wadesboro *Intelligencer* against Bro. L. L. Polk. The committee was furnished by President Alexander, with the following complaint from Bro. L. L. Polk:

RALEIGH, N. C., June 9th, 1888.

Bro. S. B. Alexander, President N. C. State Alliance, Charlotte, N. C.:

DEAR SIR AND BRO.:—*Whereas*, S. W. Hearn, claiming to be a member of the Alliance, and editor of the Wadesboro *Intelligencer*, a paper purporting to be the official organ of the Anson county Farmers' Alliance, has made and published in said paper, various and specific charges against the editor of the *Progressive Farmer*, who is a member of Oak Ridge Alliance, Wake county, and who is also the Secretary of the State Alliance, and which paper is the official organ of the State Alliance; *and whereas*, said charges are false; *and whereas*, he, Hearn, persists, in their publication, and the assiduous circulation of the same in violation of his obligation as a member of the Alliance, and of every principle of our order:

Therefore, I, the defendant in this matter, demand an immediate, full and thorough investigation of said charges, as published in the said paper, by the proper authority, under our State Constitution, to the end that justice may be done to myself and all concerned.

Respectfully and fraternally,

L. L. POLK,
Secretary N. C. Farmers' State Alliance.

All the members of the committee, and the Lecturer, being

present, with Bro. W. G. Crowder as clerk of the committee, the complaint and demand of Bro. Polk for an investigation was read, and also charges as made out and furnished Bro. Polk by the State Lecturer, as follows:

After an examination I find that the general charge against Bro. Polk by Bro. Hearn is, that Bro. Polk's course in the Stone-Hearn cotton seed case was injurious to the Alliance, and to Bro. Hearn, in that:

1st. Bro. Polk advertised and "puffed" the seed in his paper of January 12th last, thereby influencing Alliance men to buy them.

2d. Bro. Polk refused to publish the Anson County Alliance resolutions denouncing the seed, thereby failing to warn the Alliance men of the fraud.

3d. Bro. Polk did not aid, assist or encourage Bro. Hearn during the trial, as he should have done.

After reading the above charges, Bro. Smith, of the committee, asked if there was any evidence to sustain the charge of Bro. Hearn. The Lecturer replied none, except as published in the papers before the committee.

The written reply and defense of Bro. Polk, with letters from some of Bro. Hearn's counsel, was then read by the Clerk for the defense.

The Lecturer then addressed the committee on behalf of the prosecution on the general charge and specifications.

The committee then took the case, and after due deliberation, rendered the following decision:

We, the undersigned, members of the Judiciary Committee of the North Carolina Farmers' Alliance, having heard and investigated the charges of Bro. S. W. Hearn against Bro. L. L. Polk, as published in the Wadesboro *Intelligencer* (affecting him as an Alliance man), do hereby acquit Bro. Polk as to the general charge, and also as to the specific charges; all of which is respectfully submitted to your body.

J. N. HUBBARD,
W. DREWRY SMITH,
H. HAYNIE,
Judiciary Committee N. C. Farmers' State Alliance.

GEORGE WILCOX,
State Lecturer N. C. Farmers' Alliance.

Bro. J. N. Whitford, of Jones, moved that the report be received and adopted.

On motion of Bro. S. Otho Wilson, the Alliance took a recess until 4 o'clock p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION, August 14th, 1888.

The Alliance was called to order promptly at 4 o'clock.

The unfinished business of the morning session was taken up, it being the motion to adopt the report of the Judiciary Committee.

Bro. McGregor, of Anson, offered as a substitute for the motion to adopt the report of the committee, the following:

That the matter in controversy between brethren Polk and Hearn be referred back to the Judiciary Committee, with instructions to examine such witnesses as parties might produce, and make a full report to State Alliance.

Bro. Ivey offered a substitute as follows:

That the case be referred to the Committee on the Good of the Order.

Bro. Ivey's substitute was lost.

Bro. Wilcox, State Lecturer, explained at length his connection with the case, and read a letter from Bro. Hearn.

The substitute of Bro. McGregor, on being put to the house, was lost.

The question recurring on the principal motion to adopt the report of the Judiciary Committee, the motion prevailed, and the report was adopted.

On motion of Bro. W. A. Graham, the chair was requested to appoint a committee of seven on the Business Agency and Fund.

The Chair appointed the committee as follows: Bros. W. A. Graham of Lincoln, J. K. Hughes of Orange, J. B. Holman of Iredell, H. C. Kearney of Franklin, D. Z. Hardin of Richmond, and Geo. Bishop of Northampton.

By request of Bro. G. B. Pickett, of Texas, a committee of three was appointed to investigate certain charges made against him by Bro. S. W. Hearn.

The Chair appointed the following committee: Bros. J. H. Exum of Nash, J. W. McGregor of Anson, and J. E. Person of Wayne.

Various resolutions from different Alliances in regard to the Bagging Trust, were read and referred to a special committee.

On motion, it was ordered that all resolutions looking to amendments to the Constitution, be referred to the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws.

On motion, the Committee on Statutory Laws was discharged.

A resolution of the Johnston County Alliance, in regard to a reduction of the salary of the Secretary of the State Alliance, was read by Bro. J. J. Young, of Johnston, and referred to the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws.

Secretary Polk introduced Bro. J. W. Reid, Secretary of the South Carolina State Alliance. Bro. Reid addressed the Alliance in a most pleasant and fraternal spirit.

Bro. McLean introduced a resolution requesting the appointment of a committee on the "Bagging Trust." Adopted.

The Chair appointed Bros. McLean of Robeson, Pearson of Harnett, and Rogers of Warren on said committee.

The Chair announced the following Standing Committees:

Constitution and By-Laws—J. J. Battle of Edgecombe, J. J. Young of Johnston, W. E. Ardrey of Mecklenburg, H. S. Harrison of Halifax, L. R. Hamer of Robeson.

Judiciary Committee—W. A. Graham of Lincoln, J. L. McLean of Robeson, W. W. Farmer of Wilson, L. M. Morrison of Cabarrus, D. O. Bryan of Moore.

Committee on Demands and Resolutions—D. D. McIntyre of Richmond, W. A. Darden of Greene, J. K. Hughes of Orange, J. W. Atwater of Chatham, J. N. Whitford of Jones.

Bro. McGregor, of Anson, introduced a resolution which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws.

On motion, the Alliance adjourned until Wednesday 8½ o'clock A. M.

MORNING SESSION, August 15th, 1888.

The Alliance was called to order at 8½ o'clock by the President.

Minutes of yesterday's proceedings read and approved.

A resolution was introduced by Bro. V. A. Wilson, which

was referred to the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws.

Bro. Ardrey, of Mecklenburg, offered the following resolution:

A resolution adopted by Mecklenburg County Alliance, at Long Branch, on 6th of July, 1888:

Resolved. That the County Alliance of Mecklenburg recommend that the State Alliance order that the Secretaries of sub-Alliances make monthly report to the County Secretaries, and the County Secretaries make monthly reports to the State Secretary, on the condition of our crops, especially Cotton, and the State Secretary report back through the same channel to the sub-Alliances monthly.

Bro. McLean introduced a resolution which was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

The Committee on the Business Agency made the following report, which was adopted:

NORTH CAROLINA ALLIANCE BUSINESS AGENCY FUND.

SECTION 1. The President of the State Alliance shall procure a Charter of incorporation under the laws of this State for the North Carolina Farmers' State Alliance.

SEC. 2. In order to conduct the commercial business of the North Carolina Farmers' State Alliance and to protect from loss those who may deal with the Business Agent of the same, the North Carolina Farmers' State Alliance Agency Fund is hereby inaugurated.

SEC. 3. The Business Fund shall consist of not less than fifty thousand nor more than two hundred thousand dollars, divided into shares of five dollars each, and half shares of two and a half dollars each, and one-fifth shares of one dollar each.

SEC. 4. Each contributor shall receive from the Secretary of the State Alliance a receipt, as follows:

NORTH CAROLINA BUSINESS AGENCY FUND,
RALEIGH, N. C., ...188..

$..... Received of .....of Alliance No.....
..... dollars, for the North Carolina Farmers' State Alliance Business Agency Fund, and he is hereby entitled to all rights and interests to be derived from such contribution.

This certificate shall be transferable, provided such transfer be made only to a member of the Alliance in good standing.

This ... day..... .....188 .

No. .....

[SEAL.] ....
Secretary N. C. S. F. A.

SEC. 5. The Secretary shall keep in a book provided for the purpose, a list of the names of those contributing to the fund, the number of the Alliance to which they belong, and the amount contributed.

SEC. 6. The Business Fund shall be managed by the Executive Committee of the State Alliance. No portion of it shall be used in the business of the Business Agency unless required to settle the contracts of the Agent made in conformity to regulations of the Executive Committee, and when any portion is so used all money received from the cause of such use shall be returned to the Fund.

SEC. 7. The Fund shall be in the keeping of a Trustee, to be elected by the State Alliance at this session (August, 1888), who shall hold office for five years. He shall invest not less than twenty-five thousand dollars of said fund in the bonds of the State of North Carolina or the United States, and the remainder as he may deem best. The profits arising from said fund shall first be used to pay the salary of the Trustee and all other expense connected with said fund, and any remainder shall be used by the Executive Committee in defraying the expenses of the Business Agency.

SEC. 8. Said Trustee shall give a justified bond in double the amount of money supposed to pass through his hands, for the faithful accounting for all moneys for which he may be responsible or any expense incurred in collecting the same on his bond. The Executive Committee shall cause his bond to be increased from time to time, so as to cover the amounts placed in his hands, and shall require him to strengthen his bond at any time they deem it necessary, to such an amount as they deem sufficient, provided, that no member of the Executive Committee shall be accepted as bondsman.

SEC. 9. Said Trustee may be removed for cause, by a vote of the State Alliance, and he may be suspended until the meeting of the State Alliance by the Executive Committee, approved by the President. In case of vacancy from suspension, removal, death or any other cause, the Executive Committee, with approval of the President, shall fill such vacancy until the next regular meeting of the State Alliance.

SEC. 10. The Secretary of each Sub-Alliance shall collect all subscriptions made by members of their Alliance and forward to the Trustee, giving name of contributor and amount contributed by each. The Trustee shall notify the Secretary of the names and amounts who shall forward certificates to the Secretary of the Sub-Alliance as provided in Section 4. The Secretary and Treasurer shall turn over to the Trustee all funds belonging to the Fund upon his appointment. The Secretary shall notify through the Organ of the Alliance, the Sub-Alliances when the Trustee's bond is accepted.

SEC. 11. The Trustee shall receive an annual salary, to be fixed by the Executive Committee, not to exceed $1,000, to be paid quarterly out of the profits received from said Fund, and shall be paid on approved warrant of the President.

SEC. 12. In case it shall become necessary to use any of said Fund in the Business Agency, the Executive Committee shall certify to the President the amount necessary and the cause of the indebtedness, and the Executive Committee, with approval of the President, shall direct the Trustee to collect sufficient amount and settle the indebtedness.

SEC. 13. The Trustee shall collect all interest or other profits on said Fund as it becomes due, and pay the same into the treasury of the State Alliance.

SEC. 14. The Treasurer shall keep a separate account of it and shall pay it out only to the salary of the Trustee, and to the Executive Committee, to be used in conducting the Business Agency of the Alliance, on the warrant approved by the President.

SEC. 15. The Trustee shall report to each session of the Alliance how the Fund is invested and the vouchers for the disposition made of profits received on the Fund.

SEC. 16. In case the North Carolina Farmers' Alliance should for any cause cease to exist, the money composing this Fund shall revert to those contributing it.

BUSINESS AGENCY.

The Business Agent shall conduct the business of his office under the supervision and direction of the Executive Committee, as provided in Article 8, Section 3, of the Constitution.

He shall keep a record of each transaction in a book furnished for the purpose, showing articles sold or bought and price paid or received for them individually and in gross amount.

He shall sell only to the Business Agents of County and Sub-Alliances, except on written directions from the Executive Committee stating quantity to be sold and price.

On motion of Bro. Fleming, of Granville, the Secretary of the Alliance was ordered to have 10,000 copies of the report of the Committee on the Business Agency printed for distribution among the members of the order.

Bro. J. N. Whitford, of Jones, called the attention of the Alliance to a circular, which he said had been distributed throughout the city, a copy of which Bro. Whitford sent to the desk of the Secretary and asked to have read as follows:

REPORT OF THE WHITEWASHING COMMITTEE.

The report of the Judiciary Committee, adopted by the N. C. F. S. Alliance at its meeting August 14th, was false and misleading. The so-called investigation was a farce, for no investigation was held—no witness being examined or allowed to appear before the Committee.

Col. Polk posed in the attitude of both defendant and plaintiff, and was tried upon charges which I never made. You are requested to read the pamphlet which I hand you, and judge for yourself how the Committee discharged its duties. I ask at your hands justice.

You are requested to send me your address, that I may furnish you, free of charge, other publications on the subject.

I respectfully crave a hearing.

S. W. HEARN.

Raleigh, N. C., August 15th, 1888.

Bro. Whitford offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

WHEREAS, S. W. Hearn claiming to be a member of our Alliance has circulated a hand bill headed "Report of Whitewashing Committee" in which he shows himself to be a slanderer and circulator of an untruth: therefore,

Resolved, That the course of Bro. Hearn is unbecoming a good and true Alliance man, and that unless he make a suitable acknowledgment and apology for his offence at once, if on the Alliance floor, that the Sergeant-at-Arms be instructed to put him out of the hall, and if not in the hall, that the Doorkeeper be instructed not to allow him an entrance unless for the purpose as above expressed.

Bro. Hearn was called forward by the President, and refusing to make any explanation, he (Hearn) was conducted to the door by the Sergeant-at-Arms.

On motion, the report of the Committee on Bagging Trust was made special order for 3 o'clock P. M.

On motion of Bro. Ivey, it was resolved that immediately

after the disposition of the special order at the afternoon session, the Alliance would proceed to the election of officers.

The committee appointed to investigate the difficulty between Bros. Pickett and Hearn, reported as follows:

The Committee appointed to investigate the differences between Bros. Hearn and Pickett, respectfully submit the following report:

1st. That no man was ever actuated by higher aims or nobler purposes than was Bro. Pickett. That every word, act and deed, was but the promptings of an honest heart; a heart whose fidelity and devotion to our cause has been recognized throughout the State.

2d. That we accord to Bro. Hearn the same honesty of purpose, but must say he was too hasty in his conclusions and acted in violation of the teachings of our Order by resorting to the newspaper columns to make an onslaught upon another brother without seeking redress in a kindly manner, or presenting his grievances to the proper tribunal for adjustment.

J. H. EXUM, Chm'n,
J. W. McGREGOR,
J. E. PERSON,
Committee.

The report of the committee was adopted.

The report of the committee on the tobacco interests was referred to the following special committee: Bros. William Merritt of Person, J. H. Dunn of Vance, J. T. Rogers of Warren, N. H. Fleming of Granville, and V. A. Wilson of Forsyth.

A very polite invitation was received from Major R. S. Tucker of this city to visit his farm.

On motion, the Alliance adjourned until 2½ o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION, Aug. 15th, 1888.

The Alliance was called to order by the President and opened in due form.

The special order, the report of the Committee on the Bagging Trust, was called up. The committee reported as follows:

Your Special Committee, appointed to investigate and report upon the Cotton Bagging Trust, beg leave to report that we have carefully considered the several resolutions referred to the Committee upon the subject and respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved 1st. That rather than submit to the extortionate prices now put on cotton bagging, as a result of the recent bagging pool or trust, this Alliance hereby resolves to use as a substitute for such bagging cotton cloth of our own manufacture.

Resolved 2d. That this action of the State Alliance be at once communicated to the several State Jurisdictions of our Order, and to the National Alliance, and also to the Inter-State Farmers' Association, which bodies are earnestly requested to coöperate with us in this matter.

Resolved 3d. That we denounce this trust as a stupendous fraud and iniquity, and we call upon Congress to take such steps as may be deemed best to unmask this fraud and grant to the people needed relief.

On motion, the resolutions were adopted unanimously.

At this moment the following telegram was received and read:

NASHVILLE, TENN., August 15th, 1888.

Tennessee State Farmers' Alliance sends greeting to the North Carolina State Farmers' Alliance. We have determined not to use the Trust Cotton Bagging. Will use osnaburg, sheeting, or anything else. Stand by us.

J. P. BUCHANAN.
President.

J. H. McDOWELL, Secretary.

The following reply was sent:

To Bro. J. P. Buchanan, Nashville, Tennesssee:

North Carolina State Alliance sends greeting. We have passed a resolution unanimously, standing by you in the war made upon us by the bagging trust. May God prosper the right!

S. B. ALEXANDER.
President.

L. L. POLK, Secretary.

Bro. J. H. Exum, of Nash, introduced a resolution in regard to material as a substitute for cotton bagging, which was referred to the Committee on the Bagging Trust.

The Bagging Trust Committee reported back some resolutions of the Craven County Alliance, recommending that they be referred to the Committee on Demands and Resolutions.

Resolutions from various Alliances in the State in regard to the Bagging Trust were read by the Secretary, and referred to the Committee on Bagging Trust.

On motion of Bro. Carr, of Edgecombe, Bro. Payne, of Robeson, was invited to address the Alliance on this subject. Bro. Payne did so in a most capital speech.

The Alliance then proceeded to the election of officers, with the following result:

Bro. S. B. Alexander, of Mecklenburg, President.
" Thad. Ivey, of Robeson, Vice-President.
" L. L. Polk, of Wake, Secretary.
" J. D. Allen, of Wake, Treasurer.
" D. Reid Parker, of Randolph, Lecturer.
" D. D. McIntyre, of Richmond, Assistant Secretary.
" Carl Moore, of Vance, Chaplain.
" W. H. Tomlinson, of Cumberland, Door-Keeper.
" D. H. Senter, of Harnett, Assistant Door-Keeper.
" J. S. Holt, of Harnett, Sergeant-at-Arms.

The ballot for delegates to National Alliance resulted in the election of Bros. Elias Carr, of Edgecombe, J. F. Payne, of Robeson, and J. R. Beaman, of Sampson.

The following alternates were chosen: Bros. W. M. White, of Iredell, J. W. McGregor, of Anson, and W. L. Williams, of Cumberland.

The election of an Executive Committeeman in place of Bro. Elias Carr, whose term had expired, resulted in the re-election of Bro. Carr.

The following resolutions, introduced by Bro. Bishop, of Northampton, were adopted:

WHEREAS, Many of the mills for the production of bagging have shut down, and entered into a combination, so as to enable them to fix the price of bagging at an extortionate and ruinous rate to the cotton producers of our State: therefore be it

Resolved, By the North Carolina State Farmers' Alliance, in Convention assembled, at Raleigh, N. C., representing about forty thousand of the qualified voters of our State, that we do hereby earnestly request and demand of our Senators and Representatives in Congress, that they use their best efforts to have the "Mills Bill," now pending in the United States Senate, so amended as to admit bagging free of duty, and if it be impossible to so amend the said bill, then they are urged to originate and have passed a special act in the House of Representatives admitting bagging free of duty.

Resolved 2d. That all the State Alliances composing the National Alliance be requested to join with us in endeavoring to secure this simple act of justice.

Bro. J. L. McLean offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That our delegates to the National Alliance are hereby instructed to secure, if practicable, the annual meetings of the various State Alliances on the same day.

The Committee on the Tobacco Interests reported as follows:

WHEREAS. The Tobacco Interest among the farmers of North Carolina has suffered and the price has been depressed by an over-production of inferior grades and by bad management: Therefore.

Resolved 1. That the State Alliance recommend to its members to plant only 8,000 plants to the hand and to use less commercial fertilizers and more home made manures in the production of said tobacco and thereby be enabled to raise more home made supplies.

Resolved 2. That the farmers and members of the Alliance adjacent to their markets use their utmost endeavor to reduce the cost of selling their tobacco. and that the President of each County Alliance, upon petition. call a meeting of the County Alliance. composed of one or more delegates according to membership. from each Sub-Alliance for the purpose of considering the subject.

Resolved 3. That we request the State Alliance to recommend to the County Alliances to endeavor to establish tobacco warehouses and manufactures wherever practicable. founded on the Macune Agency system.

Resolved 4. That we demand of our representatives in Congress to use all their influence for the early repeal of the tobacco tax and continue to do so until it is removed.

On motion, the report of the committee was adopted.

The following resolution, introduced by Bro. J. H. Exum, was referred to Committee on Demands and Resolutions.

WHEREAS. Our Railroad Corporations were created for the common good and not for the enrichment of the few. it is just that they should be held under restrictions which will prevent them from abusing the privileges and franchises bestowed upon them by the people through their government: *and whereas*. the cost of the transportation of the products of the soil to market falls on the producers and is now burdensome beyond what is legitimate and reasonable: therefore.

Resolved. That the North Carolina Farmers' State Alliance demands the establishment of a railroad commission by the next legislature. clothed with ample powers to equitably control and regulate in the interest of the people the freight charges and tariffs on our railroads.

On motion, the Alliance adjourned until 8 o'clock at night

NIGHT SESSION, Aug. 15th, 1888.

The Alliance was called to order by President Alexander.

The special order for the evening being a lecture by Bro. G. B. Pickett, of Texas, Bro. Pickett came forward and delivered a most entertaining and instructive lecture, after which he exemplified the secret work of the order.

The brethren were much interested and benefited greatly by this exemplification of the secret work, and on motion,

the thanks of the Alliance were tendered to Bro. Pickett by unanimous vote.

The Alliance adjourned until 8½ o'clock A. M. to-morrow.

MORNING SESSION, Aug. 16th, 1888.

The Alliance was called to order at 8½ o'clock by President Alexander.

Minutes of yesterday read and approved.

Bro. W. A. Graham introduced the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved. That the Secretary, in printing the minutes, have authority to omit all papers not adopted, simply mentioning introduction and disposal, also all papers introduced and adopted, when they are incorporated in some part of the proceedings, simply mentioning introduction and reference.

Bro. L. L. Polk introduced the following resolutions, which were considered *seriatum* and adopted:

Resolved. That the N. C. F. S. Alliance hereby enters its earnest protest against the policy of giving away the labor of our convicts, and demands of our Legislature the enactment of such laws as will hereafter prevent this outrage on the rights of the tax-payers of our State.

Resolved 2. That we demand such changes in our laws as will reduce the costs in litigation in minor causes, and as shall enlarge the jurisdiction of our Justices of the Peace.

Resolved 3. That we demand that laws shall be enacted to prohibit our public officials from receiving or using free passes or free tickets on our railroads.

Resolved 4. That we demand that our Legislature establish a commission for the regulation of freights and tariff on the railroads of our State.

Resolved 5. That the above resolutions be published in THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER for the next two months, with a request that the press of the State copy.

Resolutions respecting a Committee on Legislative Reform were tabled.

The hour for the special order not having arrived, President Alexander entertained the Alliance with an instructive address on National Currency, Banking, &c.

The Alliance, then proceeded to take up the special order, the election of a State Alliance Business Agent.

After considerable discussion, a ballot was taken, which

resulted in the election of Bro. W. A. Darden, of Speights Bridge, Greene county.

The Alliance then elected Bro. W. A. Graham, of Lincoln, Trustee of the Business Agency Fund.

Bros. Darden and Graham, in neat speeches, accepted the positions to which they had been elected.

A communication was received and read from the Secretary of the State Grange Patrons of Husbandry, asking the co-operation of all farmers' organizations in resisting the Bagging Trust. The Secretary of this Alliance was instructed to reply, giving the action of this Alliance in regard to the Bagging Trust.

A communication from the Principal of Peace Institute was read, inviting the Alliance to visit the institution.

The Secretary was directed to return the thanks of the Alliance in a suitable response.

The Committee on Constitution and By-Laws reported, recommending the adoption of various amendments to the Constitution.

[These amendments have all been incorporated in the Constitution in the order in which they were adopted, and the amended Constitution has been sent out to all the sub-Secretaries in the State.]

AFTERNOON SESSION, Aug. 16th, 1888.

The Alliance was called to order by Vice-President Ivey.

The Committee on Demands and Resolutions reported back the following resolutions introduced by Bro. J. P. McLean, with the recommendation that the resolutions be adopted:

WHEREAS, As members of this State Jurisdiction, we are pledged to secure cheaper living for the farmers: *and whereas*, one of the leading methods to secure for ourselves this cheap living has been declared by the National Alliance to "consist in such a revision of the tariff as will lay the heaviest burdens on the luxuries and the lightest on the necessaries of life and as will reduce the incomes from imports to a strictly revenue basis;" *and whereas*, the demands of our fraternity require that

we should be vigilant and active in giving force and effect to this demand of our National Alliance; *and whereas*, it is the bounden duty of every true Alliance man to stand to and abide by this declaration of the National Alliance. Now therefore, be it

Resolved. That we do hereby renew our obligations to abide by and give effect to this declaration of principles as announced by the National Alliance.

Resolved. That as true and steadfast Alliance men we pledge ourselves to give neither aid, support, or comfort, nor to vote for any person or persons who cannot and will not co-operate with this Alliance in standing by and giving practical effect to the demand of said National Alliance.

Adopted.

On motion, it was ordered that the Secretary have published eight thousand copies of the Constitution as amended, for distribution to the Alliances of the State.

The following resolutions, introduced by Bro. J. H. Exum, were adopted unanimously:

Resolved. That the thanks of the North Carolina Farmers' Alliance are due, and are hereby tendered to the ladies of this city who so kindly assisted in decorating this hall for the Alliance.

Resolved further. That the thanks of this body are hereby tendered to the railroads and hotels, boarding houses, etc., for reduced rates given to members of the Alliance.

Resolved. That the thanks of the North Carolina State Alliance are due and are hereby tendered to Mr. Fred Watson, of Raleigh, for the kindly loan of suitable pictures for appropriately decorating this hall during this session of the Alliance.

Resolved further. That this Alliance desires to express its sense of the obligations it is under to Mr. H. Steinmetz, Florist, Raleigh, for kindly and generously furnishing plant flowers, &c., for decorating our hall.

Resolved. That the above resolutions be published in THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

Resolved. That the Secretary have seven thousand copies of the proceedings of this body published under supervision of the Chairman of the Executive Committee.

The Alliance then proceeded to the installation of officers, in which Bro. G. B. Pickett, of Texas, officiated as Installing Officer and Bro. L. N. Durham, Marshal of the Day.

The following named officers were duly installed: Bro. S. B. Alexander, President; Bro. T. Ivey, Vice-President; Bro. L. L. Polk, Secretary; Bro. J. H. Dunn, as proxy for Rev. Carl Moore, Chaplain; Bro. L. R. Morrison, proxy for Bro. D. R. Parker, Lecturer; Bro. D. D. McIntrye, Assistant Lecturer.

The Alliance selected Fayetteville, N. C., as the place at which to hold its next regular meeting on the second Tuesday in August, 1889.

On motion, the Alliance adjourned.

S. B. ALEXANDER,
President N. C. F. S. Alliance.

L. L. POLK,
Secretary N. C. F. S. Alliance.

OFFICERS

OF THE

North Carolina Farmers' State Alliance.

PRESIDENT:

S. B. ALEXANDER ..... Charlotte, N. C.

[illegible] ..... Ashpole, N. C.

SECRETARY:

L. L. POLK ..... Raleigh, N. C.

TREASURER:

J. D. ALLEN ..... Falls, N. C.

LECTURER:

D. REID PARKER ..... Trinity College, N. C.

ASSISTANT LECTURER:

D. D. McINTYRE ..... Laurinburg, N. C.

CHAPLAIN:

REV. CARL MOORE ..... N. C.

DOOR-KEEPER:

W. H. TOMLINSON ..... Fayetteville, N. C.

ASSISTANT DOOR-KEEPER:

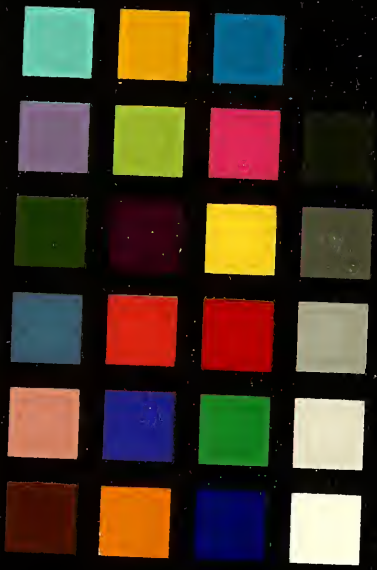
D. H. SENTER ..... Bradley's Store, N. C.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS:

J. S. HOLT ..... Chalk Level, N. C.

STATE BUSINESS AGENT:

W. A. DARDEN ..... Speight's Bridge, N. C.

TRUSTEE OF BUSINESS FUND:

W. A. GRAHAM ..... Machpelah, N. C.